

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3151

DATE: February 18, 2002

Version: Second engrossment

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Subject: DTED/DES reorganization

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Overview

This bill transfers most of the duties of the department of economic security, which is already set in law to be abolished in the summer of 2002, to the department of trade and economic development, which is renamed the department of workforce and economic development. It also creates the Minnesota Economic Leadership Team, an advisory board on economic and workforce policy that would be chaired by the governor. The bill generally represents the recommendations of the transition team created in last year's legislation.

Section

-11111 **Conforming changes.** These sections make statutory changes to implement substantive changes in responsibilities that are found elsewhere in statute.

12 **Mission.** Adds information from existing economic security mission statement to trade and economic development mission statement.

13 **Conforming change.** This is the transfer of rulemaking authority from economic security.

14 **Powers and duties.** Adds existing duties found in the statutes relating to the department of economic security to DTED's existing duties.

15 **Minnesota economic leadership team.**

Subd. 1. Membership. Outlines the membership of the team, which includes the governor, business and labor representation, education and nonprofit representation, regional leadership representation, and at-large members.

Subd. 2. Responsibilities. Provides that the team should develop a strategic vision for the state economy, review regional plans, define economic indicators that can be used to assess the state's economic situation, establish performance targets for the indicators, provide advice to the governor and to private and nonprofit organizations, and regularly report on the state's progress toward achieving the vision outlined by the team.

Subd. 3. Appointments. Provides that the governor appoints the members of the team, subject to senate confirmation.

Subd. 4. Terms. Provides that terms are as otherwise provided by law.

Subd. 5. Executive director and staff. Provides for the commissioner of the department of workforce and economic development to serve as the executive director of the team, and to hire staff.

Subd. 6. Meetings. Requires the team to meet at least four times a year.

16-22 **Conforming changes.**

23 **Department reorganization.** Renames the department of trade and economic development the department of workforce and economic development. Provides that the governor may not move programs into this agency by executive order during the first year after the reorganization is effective.

24 **Transfers of responsibility.** Transfers responsibility for the programs remaining in the department of economic security, other than disability determination services, to the department of workforce and economic development. The disability determination services unit is transferred to the department of labor and industry. Programs transferred to the department of workforce and economic development include unemployment insurance, rehabilitation services, and state services for the blind. (Some programs, including workforce exchange programs, youth programs, and energy programs, were dealt with last year.)

25 **Repealer.** Repeals statutes that relate to the reorganization. These sections are generally moved to some portion of 116J, the DTED chapter.

26 **Instruction to revisor.** Instructs the revisor to change references from both DES and DTED to the new department of workforce and economic development. Also renumbers sections to align existing DES statutes with the statutes relating to DTED.

27 **Effective date.** Makes the bill effective July 1, 2002.